Jin Bianling is the wife of Jiang Tianyong, a veteran human rights lawyer who has worked on prominent cases including those of Chen Guangcheng and Gao Zhisheng. He has also worked on cases advocating for the rights of AIDS and hepatitis B-infected people as well as other human rights abuse cases.

From 2009 to 2012, Chinese officials harassed, kidnapped, and physically tortured Jiang on numerous occasions for his human rights work.

In November 2016, Jiang traveled to Hunan to pay a visit to Chen Guiqiu, the wife of imprisoned human rights lawyer Xie Yang. He was kidnapped while returning to Beijing on November 21 and was later placed under residential surveillance for "subversion of state power" by Chinese authorities.

Ms. Jin was among the first to notice her husband's disappearance, as he didn't arrive on the train he was supposed to. Since then, she has openly campaigned for her husband's release.